

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-10 ACDA-05 OMB-01 EB-07

FEA-01 /080 W

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R 061422Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5130

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IS, US, XF

SUBJECT: ALLON'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON: PRESS SPECULATES ON
PROSPECTS OF ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN NEGOTIATIONS

1. ACCORDING TO ISRAELI PRESS JAN 6, CABINET YESTERDAY DEFERRED
SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION ON GOI POSITION RE INTERIM SETTLEMENT WITH
EGYPT. DISCUSSION REPORTEDLY HAD BEEN SCHEDULED IN VIEW OF
FONMIN ALLON'S EXPECTED MEETING WITH KISSINGER DURING
HIS UPCOMING VISIT TO US. WHILE SECURITY BLACK-OUT WAS IMPOSED ON
CABINET MEETING, PRESS REPORTED THAT PRIMIN RABIN MOVED TO POSTPONE
DISCUSSION AS NO MEANINGFUL REPORTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM
WASHINGTON ON WHICH IT COULD BE BASED.

2. PRESS REPORTS GENERAL AIR OF OPTIMISM IN JERUSALEM AND WASHINGTON
IN RECENT DAYS ON PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDING SECOND-
STEP INTERIM SETTLEMENT WITH EGYPT IN NEAR FUTURE, WHILE
ACKNOWLEDGING WIDE GAP IN POSITIONS OF TWO COUNTRIES. THERE ARE
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MIXED VIEWS IN PRESS ON WHERE INITIATIVE FOR NEW PROPOSALS

NOW RESTS. MOST COMMENTATORS NOTE THAT INSOFAR AS GOI HAS INDICATED IN PRINCIPLE ITS READINESS TO WITHDRAW, IT IS UP TO EGYPT TO MAKE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS AND THUS CONCLUDE THAT THERE IS NO NEED FOR ALLON TO GO TO US WITH NEW INSTRUCTIONS. WASHINGTON-BASED ISRAELI REPORTERS ON OTHER HAND CITE WASHINGTON EFFORTS TO GET CONCRETE PROPOSALS FROM BOTH EGYPT AND ISRAEL ON INTERIM SETTLEMENT BEFORE ALLON ARRIVES IN WASHINGTON. THEY REPORT DISAPPOINTMENT IN WASHINGTON THAT ALLON MAY BE COMING WITHOUT ANY MAPS OR OFFERS OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWALS BEYOND 30-50 KM CONCEPT ALREADY PROPOSED.

3. WASHINGTON EXPECTATION, ACCORDING TO ISRAELI PRESS, IS THAT ALLON VISIT WILL LEAD TO US-GOI CLARIFICATIONS OF ISRAELI POSITION ON TERRITORIAL COMPROMISES, WITH PRESS SPECULATION THAT AGREEMENT MAY BE CONCLUDED DURING POSSIBLE VISIT OF KISSINGER TO MID EAST EARLY FEBRUARY.

4. PRESS REPORTS JERUSALEM DENIAL OF NEWSWEEK STORY THAT ISRAEL IS PREPARED TO GIVE UP ABU RODEIS IF US ASSURES OIL SUPPLY.

5. AMIDST CONTINUING REPORTS RE ALLEGED U.S. PRESSURE IN PREPARATION FOR ALLON VISIT FORMER PRIMIN MEIR TOLD REPORTERS ON HER RETURN FROM US THAT SHE DOES NOT HAVE "THE SLIGHTEST DOUBT THAT US FRIENDSHIP FOR ISRAEL REMAINS STRONG."
KEATING

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